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Claims 1-9 are pending in the application. Applicants amend claims 1, 6, and 9 for clarification, and refer to Fig. 1, its corresponding description, and page 20, lines 12-41 in the specification for exemplary embodiments of and support for the claimed invention. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art ("AAPA") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,662,216 to Lin. Applicants amend claims 1, 6, and 9 in a good faith effort to clarify the invention as distinguished from the cited references. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Examiner asserted that AAPA discloses all aspects of the claimed invention except for the functions of the claimed access controller of each processor. The Examiner relied upon Lin as a combining reference that allegedly teaches these features.

Again, Lin only describes providing bus snooping capabilities on common buses that do not include such capabilities for invalidating stale cached data. The Examiner cited a recognition in Lin that stale cached data "will have to be invalidated (or replaced)." Col. 5, line 55 of Lin. This cited portion of Lin only includes a plain recognition that stale cached data needs to be replaced. But Lin does not provide any disclosure on how invalidated data would be replaced, other than merely suggesting that such invalidated data would eventually be replaced.

MPEP 2121.01 requires the following,

""In determining that quantum of prior art disclosure which is necessary to declare an applicant's invention "not novel" or "anticipated" within section 102, the stated test is whether a reference contains an 'enabling disclosure'... ' *In re Hoeksema*, 399 F.2d 269, 158 USPQ 596 (CCPA 1968). \*>The disclosure in an assertedly anticipating reference must provide an enabling disclosure of the desired subject matter; mere naming or

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description of the subject matter is insufficient, if it cannot be produced without undue experimentation. *Elan Pharm., Inc. v. Mayo Foundation for Medical and Education Research*, 346 F.3d 1051, 1054, 68 USPQ2d 1373, 1376 (Fed. Cir. 2003) (At issue was whether a prior art reference enabled one of ordinary skill in the art to produce Elan's claimed transgenic mouse without undue experimentation. Without a disclosure enabling one skilled in the art to produce a transgenic mouse without undue experimentation, the reference would not be applicable as prior art.) < A reference contains an 'enabling disclosure' if the public was in possession of the claimed invention before the date of invention. 'Such possession is effected if one of ordinary skill in the art could have combined the publication's description of the invention with his [or her] own knowledge to make the claimed invention.' *In re Donohue*, 766 F.2d 531, 226 USPQ 619 (Fed. Cir. 1985)." (Underlining added for emphasis)

Applicants respectfully submit that Lin fails to provide adequate disclosure for modifying AAPA to meet the claimed invention.

Thus, even assuming, arguendo, that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to combine AAPA and Lin, the combination would still have failed to disclose or suggest,

"[a] multiprocessor system comprising a common memory and a number of processors connected via a common bus, only one processor being allowed to access same data area of said common memory at a time, wherein:

said common memory is provided with a number of data areas that store data and with a control information area that stores control information indicating whether each of the data areas is in use;

each processor is provided with a storage unit for storing same data and same control information as those stored in the common memory and with an access controller; and

the access controller of a processor that does not have access privilege monitors data and addresses that flow on the common bus, accepts, from the common bus, data written to said common memory and data read from said common memory and stores this data in the storage unit within its own processor," as recited in claim 1. (Emphasis added)

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Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, together with claims 2-5 dependent therefrom, is patentable over the cited references for at least the foregoing reasons. Claims 6 and 9 incorporate features that correspond to those of claim 1 cited above, and are, therefore, together with claims 7-8 dependent from claim 6, patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons.

The above statements on the disclosure in the cited references represent the present opinions of the undersigned attorney. The Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically indicate those portions of the respective reference that provide the basis for a view contrary to any of the above-stated opinions.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Docket No.: FUSA 20.757 (100807-00093)  
DTC:bf

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